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DMS

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/939,442 09/29/97 NA

I 046562

EXAMINER

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED:

04/12/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No. 08/939,442	Applicant(s) Na et al
Examiner Christopher Onuaku	Group Art Unit 2712

Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

This action is FINAL.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-12 and 17-30 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) 13-16 is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1,3,6-8,10-12,22-23,25-27&30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yanagihara et al (US 5,899,578).

Regarding claim 1, Yanagihara et al disclose a device which receives and decodes digital broadcasts which includes processing performed when undecoded video data and audio data are input from an external recording/playback device, comprising:

- a) the claimed input device (see Fig. 1&2; col.3, lines 36-44; col.4, lines 5-12; col.3, line 36 to col.4, line 12; and col.5, lines 5-12);
- b) the claimed receiver and “first” digital interface (see the digital processor of Fig.1 referred to as Integrated Receiver Decoder (IRD) which includes digital interface 11; col.3, lines 32-65; and col.10, lines 20-24); and
- c) the claimed recording/reproducing device including a “second” digital interface (see Fig.10,10A&10B, the digital interface 36; col.9, line 18 to col.10, line 51).

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Regarding claim 3, the claimed limitations of claim 3 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 1 above including the “first” and “second” digital interfaces (also see col.6., line 34 to col.7, line 12). Additionally see microcomputer 9 (the “first” signal processor) in col.5, line 34 to col.7, line 19); “second” signal processor (see signal processor computer 28, multiplexor 24 and demultiplexer 32; col. 10, 14-51).

Regarding claim 6, Yanagihara discloses wherein the “first” digital interface generates a command based on parsed PSI (see col.6, line 34 to col.7, line 12).

Regarding claim 7, Yanagihara discloses wherein the “first” and “second” digital interfaces are each an IEEE 1394 interface (see col.6, lines 63-65, and col.10, lines 14-19).

Regarding claim 8, Yanagihara discloses wherein the “first” digital interface transfers the transport stream as isochronous packets during an isochronous transfer “mode”, and transfers the program number as asynchronous packets during an asynchronous transfer “mode” using “control command set”(see col.6, line 63 to col.7, line 12, and col.9, line 6 to col.10, line 51).

Regarding claim 10, Yanagihara discloses wherein the “first” digital interface transfers a multi-program transport stream isochronous packets in an isochronous transfer “mode” (see col.6, line 63 to col.7, line 4), and the “second” digital interface transfers a “single program”

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(packet) transport stream as isochronous packets in the isochronous transfer mode during a playback “mode” (see col.7, lines 5-12). Here the DVCR has a digital interface 36 (“second” digital interface) of Fig.10A.

Regarding claim 11, Yanagihara discloses wherein the “first” digital interface transfers a multi-program transport stream isochronous packets in an isochronous transfer “mode” (see col.6, line 63 to col.7, line 4), and the “second” digital interface transfers a “multi- program” transport stream as isochronous packets in the isochronous transfer mode during a playback “mode”. This is inherent in the digital interface of Yanagihara since both digital interface 11 of Fig.1 and digital interface 36 of the DVCR of Fig.10A 1 have the same construction (see col.10, lines 20-24).

Regarding claim 12, Yanagihara discloses wherein the “first” digital interface transfers a single program transport stream isochronous packets in an isochronous transfer “mode” (This is inherent in the digital interface of Yanagihara since both digital interface 11 of Fig.1 and digital interface 36 of the DVCR of Fig.10A 1 have the same construction (see col.10, lines 20-24). and the “second” digital interface transfers a “single program” transport stream as isochronous packets in the isochronous transfer mode during a playback “mode”(see col.7, lines 5-12). Here the DVCR has a digital interface 36 (“second” digital interface) of Fig.10A.

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Regarding claim 22, the claimed limitations of claim 22 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 23, the claimed limitations of claim 23 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 3 above. Also, see col.4, lines 5-48).

Regarding claim 25, Yanagihara discloses the method comprising the steps of transferring a “command” for inquiring whether to permit the transfer of the program number of the program recorded in the recording medium, from the receiver to the recording/reproducing device, during a playback mode, and receiving the program number of the program recorded in the recording medium, from the recording/reproducing device (see col.4, lines 5-46; and col.6, lines 34-67).

Regarding claim 26, Yanagihara discloses a method comprising the steps providing a program number of the intended program to be recorded, transferring a “command” for inquiring as to whether to permit the recording of the program, receiving a “response” for permitting the recording of the program from the recording device, transferring a “command” for performing the recording of the program corresponding to the program number provided in the steps above, and receiving a “response” for “notifying” of the permission of the recording of the program corresponding to the program number, from the recording device (see col.4, lines 5-46; col.5, line 54 to col.7, 58).

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Regarding claim 27, the claimed limitations of claim 27 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 23 above.

Regarding claim 30, the claimed limitations of claim 30 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 26 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2,4-5&9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yanagihara et al in view of Couts (US 5,742,730).

Regarding claims 2&4, Yanagihara fails to disclose wherein the input device is a remote controller. Couts teaches a control system for rapidly and accurately positioning consumer-type VCRs to arbitrarily selected tape positions comprising a remote control module 42 (see Fig. 1; col.4, lines 50-53, and col.9, lines 43-53). A remote control device provides the desirable capability of controlling a device from a distance. It would have been obvious to modify Yanagihara by realizing Yanagihara with a remote controller, as taught by Couts, which would provide the desirable capability of controlling the Yanagihara processor from a distance.

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Regarding claim 5, the processor of Yanagihara, which is also a receiver, is connected to DVCR of Fig.10 of Yanagihara through a digital interface (see claim 1 discussion) . With Yanagihara now modified with the remote controller of Couts, Yanagihara would control the recording/reproducing devices of Yanagihara.

Regarding claim 9, Couts further teach wherein the “control command set” is an “audio/video control command and transaction set” (AV/C CTS) (see col.9, lines 43-61).

5. Claims 17-21,24&28-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yanagihara et al in view of Lett et al (US 5,657,414).

Regarding claim 17, Yanagihara fails to explicitly disclose on-screen graphic (OSG) generator. Lett et al teach in Fig.2 on screen display control 127 which selectively generates on screen character and graphic displays in place of or overlaid on the video signal. The subscriber uses the on screen display features to determine a program event which the subscriber wishes to watch(see col.7, lines 23-34; col.11, lines 54-66;. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Yanagihara by realizing Yanagihara with on-screen graphic generating means, as taught by Lett, in order, to facilitate, for example, the determination of the program event which the subscriber wishes to watch.

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Regarding claim 18, Lett teaches wherein the on-screen graphic (OSG) generator “mixes” the “program guide information” with a graphic signal of a background screen to be provided to the OSG display (see col.7, line 23-34), here the examiner reads the video signal of col.7 line 27, as a “program guide information”.

Regarding claim 19, Lett teaches wherein the OSG generator “mixes” the program guide information with the decoded video signal to be provided to the OSG display (see col.7, lines 34-60).

Regarding claim 20, with Yanagihara now modified with Lett, Yanagihara now discloses wherein the “first” signal processor further comprises an on-screen display generator for displaying the program guide information of a transport stream being received on an OSD display (see claims 1,17&18 discussions).

Regarding claim 21, the claimed limitations of claim 21 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 3, since the “second” signal processor of claim 3 extracts and records the extracted intended program, which is a “program guide information”.

Regarding claim 24, the claimed limitations of claim 24 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 17 above.

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Regarding claims 28\$29, the claimed limitations of claims 28&29 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 17 above.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 13-14 & 15-16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 13, the prior art of record fails to show or fairly suggest a multi-media system comprising a first and second digital interfaces, each of which is an IEEE 1394 interface where the multimedia system further comprises wherein the first digital interface comprises a first microcomputer including a transaction layer and a serial bus management layer, as software, for generating a program number command based on a program number received from the input device, using a write transaction and a read transaction, a first link layer for adding an asynchronous header to the program number command received from the first microcomputer to convert the program number command into serial data, and a first physical layer for converting the serial data into an electrical signal.

Regarding claim 15, the prior art of record fails to show or fairly suggest a multi-media system comprising a first and second digital interfaces, each of which is an IEEE 1394 interface

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where the multimedia system further comprises wherein the second digital interface comprises a second physical layer for converting the program number command electrical signal, transferred from the first physical layer, into digital data, a second link layer for converting the program number command digital data into parallel data, and for removing an asynchronous header, and a second microcomputer including a transaction layer and a serial bus management layer, as software, for recording the program number on a predetermined region of a recording medium by recognizing the program number command during a recording mode, and for reading out the program number recorded in the predetermined region during a playback mode.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Boetje et al (US 6,038,368) teach an apparatus , a computer system, and a method for recording, editing, reviewing, and distributing video segments; and Iwamura (US 5,838,876) teaches digital video recording and editing systems including those which find application in editing and playback operation on MPEG digital video streams.

9.. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from this examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is (703) 308-7555. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Thursday from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Monday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber, can be reached on (703) 305-4929.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

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or faxed to:

(703) 308-6306 and (703) 308-6296, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 308-6306 and (703) 308-6296 (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be direct to the Group receptionist whose telephone is (703) 305-4700.

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4/7/00

Wendy Garber
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